© It is anticipated that the first two projects will be sanctioned by Spetember, 1997, and the third is likely to be cleared by March, 1998.

Imported items used for road Construction

120.SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPOT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the 12 items used for road construction which are not being manufactured in India; as reported in the Economic times of 5th June, 1997;

(b) whether the quantities – to be imported arc. Subject to any scrutiny so that imports are related strictly to these items;

(c) which indigenously made equipments have been considered as a substitute to the imported items; and

(d) whether it has been found that these works cannot be carried out efficiently by human labours which is surplus and available in all parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) to (c) The road constrcution equipments proposed to be imported free of duty are those which are not manufactured in India.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Bridge Across the river Nethravathi In Mangalore, Karnataka

121. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress in completion of the Bridge across the river Nethravathi in Mangalore, Karnataka, is very slow and if so, the reasons for such lethargy; and

(b) the details of the project and its estimated cost and date of completion?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(c) The sanctioned cost of the bridge over River Nethravathy is Rs. 761.50 lakhs and the likely date of completion is June, 1998.

Concessions to foreign Investors for construction of roads

122. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have since decided to offer some special concessions to foreign investors for investment in the construction of roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any foreign investors have since applied for the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) A policy package has been announced for attracting private investment both domestic and foreign, in the development of National Highways. The policy provides for the selection of the investor through competitive bidding and does not provide for any special concession to foreign investors.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Policy for one-time payment of road ta for Different Categories of Vehicles

123. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMA AGARWALLA: Will the Minister SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased state: